

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 090393

21

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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NEA/P - MR. BERRY

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R 142359Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 090393

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - RABBI KAHANE IN ISRAEL

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN MAY
BE DRAWN ON AS APPROPRIATE. NO QUESTIONS RAISED ON
SUBJECT AT TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING.

Q: IS IT TRUE AMBASSADOR MALCOLM TOON IN TEL AVIV
REFUSED TO MEET MEIR KAHANE?

A: ABOUT APRIL 8 RABBI KAHANE SENT A MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR
TOON WHICH SAID "FEAR DANGEROUS ESCALATION ATTACKS ON
SOVIETS. CONSEQUENCES SERIOUS. ASK IMMEDIATE MEETING
WITH YOU DISCUSS EASING SITUATION." PRESUMABLY HE WAS
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PAGE 02 STATE 090393

REFERRING TO THE ACTIONS DIRECTED AT SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN

NEW YORK. IN RESPONSE OUR EMBASSY SENT RABBI KAHANE AN INVITATION TO CALL AT THE EMBASSY AT HIS CONVENIENCE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH AN EMBASSY OFFICER. THE INVITATION REMAINS OPEN.

Q: HAS THE DEPARTMENT EVER HAD ANY CONTACTS WITH THE JDL?

A: A WORKING LEVEL OFFICER FROM THE SOVIET DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT MET WITH SOME JDL LEADERS IN NEW YORK ON MARCH

11 IN AN EFFORT TO DISCUSS THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS POSED BY THE ACTS OF HARASSMENT AGAINST THE SOVIETS IN THIS COUNTRY.

Q: AT WHAT LEVEL WAS THE EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV PREPARED TO RECEIVE RABBI KAHANE?

A: THE EMBASSY WAS AND IS PREPARED TO HAVE A RESPONSIBLE OFFICER ON ITS STAFF MEET WITH RABBI KAHANE.

Q: WHY WON'T TOON SEE KAHANE?

A: THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICER IS PERFECTLY QUALIFIED TO TALK TO RABBI KAHANE. KISSINGER

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